

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or)	
)	
Revocation of the Educator)	
)	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
Certificate of)	
)	(AMENDED)
Alfred O. Vanderpuije)	
)	
Certificate 201179)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on February 8, 2006, and again on July 12, 2006. On June 2, 2005, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Alfred O. Vanderpuije a notice of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate 201179 by regular and certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery. Mr. Vanderpuije received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing his signature. Mr. Vanderpuije subsequently agreed to waive his right to a hearing and to accept the voluntary suspension of his certificate for a period that would commence retroactively on June 13, 2005, and end on June 12, 2006. After considering the information presented, the State Board voted to order the suspension of Mr. Vanderpuije's certificate, on the agreed-upon terms.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Vanderpuije holds a South Carolina certificate with over nine years of experience. Mr. Vanderpuije served as the principal of W. A. Perry Middle School (School) in Richland County School District One (District) from July 1, 2000, until a January 2005 audit of School activity funds indicated that District procedures had not been followed and that funds had been misused. Mr. Vanderpuije reimbursed the District for \$4,460, the funds in question, and resigned from his employment, effective February 25, 2005.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, dishonesty, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. The State Board finds that the information presented supports its determination that just cause exists to suspend Mr. Vanderpuije’s certificate, commencing retroactively on June 13, 2005, through June 12, 2006. If Mr. Vanderpuije wishes to have his certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, Mr. Vanderpuije must make a written request to the Office of Educator Certification of the Department.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Joe Isaac
Joe Isaac, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
July 12, 2006